

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 406 - SB 548**

March 2, 2017

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Enacts the Public Participation Protection Act (PPPA) for the purpose of encouraging and safeguarding the constitutional rights of persons to petition, speak freely, associate freely, and otherwise participate in government to the maximum extent permitted by law and, to protect the rights of persons to file meritorious lawsuits for demonstrable injury.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions:

- The PPPA is a model act developed by the American Legislative Exchange Council. It is an anti-SLAPP (Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation) law.
- The PPPA authorizes a defendant, against whom a lawsuit intended to impede the defendant's First Amendment rights was filed, to request an expedited hearing to dismiss the case. If the defendant prevails, then the defendant may recover attorneys and reasonable costs.
- Tennessee currently has an anti-SLAPP law (Tennessee Anti-SLAPP Act of 1997) codified in title 4, chapter 21, part 10. It is assumed that the proposed legislation will not significantly impact current operations of the courts.
- The Administrative Office of the Courts confirms that the proposed legislation will not significantly impact court operations.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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